Rank of Indian universities

2189. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in a list of world's top universities published in the print media recently a solitary Indian University 'JNU' appeared at 192nd place;

(b) if so, whether criteria for top ranking places greater emphasis on research;

(c) if so, the reason for which we cannot upgrade our few selected universities upto 10 to 15 places having significant input of quality research; and

(d) whether Government would earmark extra funds initially and gradually ensure their autonomy to raise their own money in the long run?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is not aware of the criteria adopted by the Organization which conducts the survey.

(c) and (d) Subject to the finalization of the Eleventh Plan and availability of resources basic science research in the university system is proposed to be strengthened during the Plan period, as per the recommendations of the Task Force appointed for this purpose.

Shortcomings of Mid-Day Meal Scheme in Delhi

†2190. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General has pointed the various shortcomings regarding the Mid-Day Meal Scheme in schools in Delhi;

(b) if so, the steps taken to remove these shortcomings;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to malnutrition, the children in the backward and poverty stricken areas like Vidarbha suffer from diseases of eyes, teeth and breathing; and

(d) if so, the efforts made for distribution of nutrients, as Vitamin, mineral salts, etc. in the Mid-Day Meal scheme so that the children could not become victims to the diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.